മിസ്റ്റർ ജോസ്. കെ. വർഗീസ്: ൪൦,൦൦൦ രൂപ ചിലവാക്കുന്നതു വെള്ളമുണ്ടാക്കാ മെന്നു ഗവണ്മെന്റിനു ബോദ്ധ്യപ്പെട്ടിട്ടാണോ?

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. എസ്സ്. രാഘവൻ: അതെ.

Demand put and carried

18. 13-Forests and Tramway—A-1-b-Collection charges of timber

Mr. S. Venkiteswaran *(Conservator of Forests):* I rise to move for an additional allotment of Rs. 1,00,000 under "13-Forests and Tramway-A. 1-b-Collection charges of timber".

Government proposes to take over from the Supply Department of the Government of India the surplus stock of timber collected by them along the Anamalais road are. A sum of Rs. 1,00,000 is required for payment of collection charge of this stock expended by them. An additional allotment of Rs. 1,00,000 is therefore necessary under "A-1-b-by other means".

I request that the allotment may be granted.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Sir, I was under some misapperehension when I heard that the Government proposed to purchase timber from the Supply Department. I thought that it was from the Hon'ble Rao Sahib's Department. From the information supplied by the Hon'ble mover I stand disillusioned. I don't move the cut motion.

Demand put and carried

19. B-Forest and Tramway—A-5-Building, Construction of semi-permanent shed in the Conservator's Office

Mr. S. Venkiteswaran *(Conservator of Forests):* I rise to move for an additional allotment of Rs. 5,000 under 12-Forests and Tramway -A-5-Building, Construction of semi-permanent shed in the Conservator's Office.

There is dearth of sufficient space in the Office of the Conservator of Forests to accommodate the staff. A semi-permanent shed has therefore to be put up as an extension to the Office for which a sum of Rs. 5,000 is necessary. Hence the additional allotment of Rs. 5,000 under "5-buildings" which I request the House may be pleased to sanction the allotment.

Demand put and carried

20. 13-Forests and Tramway—B-10-Tour charges

Mr. S. Venkiteswaran *(Conservator of Forests):* I rise to move for an additional allotment Rs. 95 under 13-Forests and Tramway-B 10-Tour charges.

Out of the provision of Rs 120 under "Tour charges" a sum of Rs. 95 has been spent during the first five months of the year on account of the tours the Conservator of Forests had to undertake to Delhi, Madras, etc. places. To meet the expenses under this head for the rest of the year a sum of Rs. 95 more will be necessary and an additional allotment of Rs. 95 is therefore required under "B-10-Tour charges".

I request the House may be pleased to grant the additional allotment.

Mr. G. S. Dhara Singh *(Mattancheri):* What is the necessity of these tours?

Mr. S. Venkiteswaran *(Conservator of Forests):* There was necessity for the tours outside the state in connection with war supplies and for the study of Forest development outside the State so that in the method adopted elsewhere may be adopted here also if deemed necessary. Most of the tour was however, in connection with the supply transactions.

Demand put and carried

21. 13-Forests and Tramway B-6-Unforeseen charges

Mr. S. Venkiteswaran *(Conservator of Forests):* I rise to move for an additional allotment of Rs. 5,000 under "13-Forests and Tramway B-6-Unforeseen charges."

The expenditure involved in continuing the Tramway as it exists at present is capable of further reduction if many of the zig zags and the inclines in the second and third sections of the line are avoided for which the possibility of a realignment has to be investigated. For that

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purpose it is necessary to hold a preliminary survey of the area and find out the practicability of a continuous trace which may be taken up immediately. The investigation of the realignment is estimated to cost Rs. 5,000 for which there is no provision in the budget. An additional allotment of Rs. 5,000 is therefore required under "B-6-Unforeseen charges".

I request the allotment may be granted.

Demand put and carried

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS—GOVERNMENT BILLS

1. The Cochin Payment of salaries and Allowances Act (Amendment) Bill

Mr. B. V. K. Menon *(Chief Secretary to Government):* I request that the Cochin Payment of Salaries and Allowances Act (Amendment) Bill be read in Council.

Mr. M. Sivarama Menon *(Advocate-General):* I second it.

Mr. B. V. K. Menon *(Chief Secretary to Government):* There are three items in this Bill. One is the payment of salary to the non-official members of this House announced by His Highness the late Maharaja and which had its genesis in a motion passed by this House that the Members of the House should be paid a salary in addition to travelling allowance that is now being paid.

The second one is the enhancement of the salary now given to the Deputy President by increasing it from Rs. 1,200 to 2,000 per year. Government also thought that it is time to consider whether any enhancement is not necessary to the emoluments now sanctioned to the Hon'ble Minister. From the various reports in the Press Government thought there is a volume of opinion that an enhancement in the salary of the Hon'ble Minister is also necessary. And that also is proposed in this Bill. Government certainly, as usual, would not be taking part in the discussion about this and would be guided by the opinion of this House in this matter and this is included in the Bill so that the members will have an opportunity to express an opinion in this regard. I do not think that any further explanation on the clauses of the Bill is necessary at this stage.

*Mr. P. Govinda Menon *(Ernakulam):* Mr. President, Sir, I wish to offer a few remarks at this stage about the principles underlying the three important provisions made in the Bill presented for the consideration of this House. The Bill seeks to provide a salary to the non-official members of this House. That demand has been made more than once on the floor of this House, and I believe, it is in persuance of the vote of this House that a salary for the non-official members must be provided for by Government that this provision has been made in the Bill now before the House. With respect to the enhanced salary, provided for the Hon'ble Minister, I wish to draw the attention of Government and other non-official members of this House as to the history behind the present salary of the Minister which is fixed at Rs. 500. When the present Constitution Act was passed in the year 1113, and for the first time we got a Rural Development Minister from among the non-officials, Government first of all framed rules under section 6 (3) of the Government of Cochin Act under which, tentatively, the salary of the Minister was fixed at Rs. 850 per mensem. But in the very rules framed by Government it was stated that these rules shall be in force until an act of the Cochin Legislature was passed determining the salary and allowance of the Minister; snd in the Budget Session of 1113, Government introduced a Bill fixing the salary of the Minister at the figure of Rs. 850 per month. After introducing the Bill, Government made it abundantly clear, by authoritative pronouncements on the floor of the House, that this Bill is only a Government Bill by way of formality, and it is for the non-official members to decide what shall be the salary which they will give to their Minister. Two amendments were proposed to the figure of Rs. 850 provided for in the Bill. One amendment was introduced by a Member of the party to which then I had the honour to belong and from which party the then Minister was elected. We wanted to fix the figure at Rs. 500. per month. There was another amendment which though that even Rs. 500 was too high and I believe the Hon'ble veteran member from Chittur, moved an amendment that it shall be fixed at the figure of Rs. 300. Non-official members voted on the measure and it was decided that Rs. 500 shall be the proper salary for the Minister. Certain allowances also were provided for the Minister. It is well known that he is given either a free house or Rs. 75 in lieu of a House and Rs. 100 as a car allowance, and certain additional allowances also

*Speech not corrected by the Hon'ble Member.

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